UNITED NATIONS

Convention to Combat Desertification

Distr.
GENERAL

ICCD/COP(1)/CST/2
21 July 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**
**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES**
First Session
Rome, 29 September - 10 October 1997
CST Agenda item 5

# SURVEY AND EVALUATION OF EXISTING NETWORKS

Note by the Secretariat

1. Pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 25 of the Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD), the Committee on Science and Technology is to make provision for undertaking a survey and evaluation of relevant existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies willing to become units of a network to support implementation of the CCD.

2. By its decision 10/10, taken at its tenth session, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for Desertification (INCD) invited the Secretariat to solicit proposals to undertake such a survey and evaluation and to arrange for circulation of executive summaries of these proposals in advance of the first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 1).

3. Responses were received from the following organizations: The Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD); China National Center for Research and Development and Desertification Control; Permanent Inter-state Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS); Desert Research Center, Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation; Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS).

4. By letters dated 17 and 19 June 1997, the Secretariat advised those organizations referred to in paragraph 3 that the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), on behalf of itself and a consortium of members, had requested an extension for filing until 31 July 1997, in case any such organizations wished to avail themselves of the additional time to add to or modify their submissions.

5. The submissions from the organizations referred to in paragraph 3, together with the UNEP submission and any additions or modifications to the summaries referred to in paragraph 4, will be annexed to document ICCD/COP(1)/CST/2/Add.1.

GE.97-63426